

## THE WEATHER

The Sun Special Service  
DENVER, Colo., Feb. 7, 7:55 a. m.  
Generally fair tonight and Saturday, preceded by snow in the northwest portion this afternoon. Colder in west portion tonight.

Nothing ruins a hardwood floor sooner than scrubbing.

## DECISION THAT MINING TAX LAW OF UTAH IS VALID

### SEVERAL CARBON COAL CORPORATIONS LITIGANTS.

Twenty-Four Companies of the State Now to Appeal Cases to the Supreme Court of the United States — Revenues of Around Eight Hundred Thousand Dollars Involved.

Judge Tillman D. Johnson of the United States district court at Salt Lake City last Tuesday decided in favor of Daniel O. Larson, state treasurer, as defendant in suits filed by twenty-four mining companies of the state, to test the validity of the state occupation tax. In the decision the court ordered that the actions brought by the companies be dismissed, and the state be allowed to collect the taxes in dispute. It is estimated by counsel for the claimants that the matter will be carried to the United States supreme court for final decision. The action taken by the court involves over eight hundred thousand dollars in taxes. The suits were filed last December after Treasurer Larson is alleged to have notified the companies that the state would seize and sell their properties unless the taxes were paid. In the complaint, the companies asked the court for a restraining order.

The companies involved in the suit are the Utah Copper, Pleasant Valley Coal company, Utah Fuel company, Silver King Coalition Mining company, Grand Central Mining company, Gold Chain Mining company, Chief Consolidated Mining company, Eagle and Blue Bell Mining company, Huntington Mines company, Victoria Consolidated Mining company, Minnehaha Mining company, Bullion Consolidated Mining company, American Fuel company, Standard Coal company, Seaford Coal company, Ohio Copper company, Cardiff Mining and Milling company and others.

#### Constitution Violated.

The claimants claimed that the occupation tax was a violation of the state constitution by reason of a clause wherein mining property could not be assessed for more than four miles on the dollar. The occupation tax raised it to sixteen miles. By mutual agreement the attorneys representing the plaintiffs and defendant agreed to let the case be decided by Judge Johnson. All parties to the suit submitted briefs a month ago. Much public interest has been aroused by the case, which involves property valued at \$300,000,000. The decision of the court will cause to pour into the state treasury nearly a million dollars in tax money each year, should the opinion be sustained by the supreme court.

Members of the Salt Lake Mining exchange declare the action of the United States district court, if upheld in the higher court, will be the financial death of the mining industry of the state. It is declared by mining experts that it will be impossible for mining concerns in Utah to meet the extra obligations which would be forced upon them by the tax, in face of the keen competition of other mineral bearing states.

#### Legislation Proposed.

Following a series of conferences convened by committees of the state legislature, Gov. Simon Bamberg, Attorney General Dan B. Shields and members of the state board of equalization, it was decided last Wednesday to recommend to the legislature a law covering the subject of taxation of mines within the state of Utah, in conformity with the amendment to the constitution which was favorably voted upon at the last election.

The recommendation of the conference provides that the state board of equalization shall assess the mines on the basis of not to exceed three times their net proceeds. The net proceeds are to be more accurately defined by allowing the mining companies all actual and necessary expenses of production, with the exemption of all federal taxes, legal expenses, salaries of corporate officers and officers and employees not residents within the state.

It is expected that with the passage of such a law, the mining companies' contest of the occupation tax which has been before the federal court will be dropped and that the companies will pay the tax which has been assessed against them, amounting approximately \$1,000,000. With the passage of the proposed mine tax law also the occupation tax law will be repealed.

Two-cent letter postage is to be restored July 1, 1919. The extra one cent since the higher rate has prevailed has cost Price business interests many thousands of dollars.

# The Sun

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EVERY FRIDAY

FEBRUARY 7, 1919

## LEGAL BLANKS

Legal blanks of every description arranged from the best legal forms and brought down to date. A full supply always on hand. Fifty cents a dozen. The Sun.

When sauces are set away put a few hits of butter on top. This prevents the forming of a crust.

## BIG BOND ISSUE AUTHORIZED; MOUNTAIN WATER FOR PRICE

Hundred and Seventy Thousand Dollars Asked For By City Fathers At Election, March 8th.

Whether Price shall have a better and purer water supply now depends upon a vote of the taxpayers called for Saturday, March 8th, next, when they are to pass upon the question of bonding for \$1 hundred and seventy thousand dollars. For several months George A. Wootten, mayor, and the members of the city council have been wrestling with the proposition. The result is that they are taking the bovine by the horns, as it were, and it backed by the people in supplying the money they propose to build a pipeline from this city to the vicinity of Colton, a distance of some twenty seven miles, and where the very best of water is obtainable. The city recently acquired valuable rights there. Again the water now being used and taken from the Price river between this city and Helper may be diverted to the intake farther up.

Recently the council had prepared a bill for introduction in the present legislature looking to a law that would permit cities of the class of Price to bond to an unlimited amount for water. A committee was sent to Salt Lake City with the result that it was found of such a law was even more of a passage it would require a constitutional amendment, which would have to be voted on by the people of the whole state two years hence. After this report came back the council got busy and began looking up its powers and the taxable limits. It was found that the assessed valuations last year were \$172,000,000, which permits a bond issue of just a little more than the hundred and seventy thousand. This is aside from the present bonded debt of forty-five thousand dollars for water, light and sewer. The bonds if voted are to run for twenty years and bear 6 per cent interest. They may be paid off in fifteen years.

At Tuesday evening's meeting of the city council there was some discussion of the matter. But not much. Members of the council and Mayor Wootten had previously gone over the entire situation with leading citizens and taxpayers locally and were in a mood for action. Dr. H. B. Goetzmann, chairman of the water committee, made a verbal report and later supplemented this by offering a resolution. This was voted for by himself and the other two members present—Aldermen Peasek and Anderson. Those absent from the meeting were Aldermen Fitzgerald and Mathis. Stripped of its legal phrases the resolution of Alderman Goetzmann reads:

Whereas, For the purpose of supplying Price with water and to that end to improve the works for the supply of such water now owned and controlled by Price, it becomes necessary for the incorporation to incur indebtedness and to become indebted to an amount of \$170,000, at which is necessary and required for the aforesaid purpose. Be it resolved, That a special election be called to be held Saturday, March 8, 1919, for the purpose of submitting to the qualified electors thereof whether bonds of said city in the sum of \$170,000 shall be issued and sold for the purpose of raising money for the purpose of supplying Price with water, and to that end to improve the works for the supply of such water now owned and controlled by said Price.

Then follows the notice, a part of the resolution, published on the sixth page of this impression of The Sun. It provides that the \$170,000 in bonds shall run for twenty years with the privilege of paying them off after fifteen years, the same to bear no greater interest than 6 per cent per annum. All persons who paid a property tax in Price last year (1918) are entitled to vote. The polls are to be open from 7 o'clock of the morning to 7 o'clock of the evening. There are three polling places, one at City Hall with O. T. Bascom, J. S. Ellerton and E. W. McMillen as judges. At the courthouse the judges are Harry A. World, J. O. Fausett and Henry Fink. Those residing south of the Denver and Rio Grande tracks vote at the Southern Utah depot. The judges here are O. T. Harmon, A. W. Shinn and Alie Powell. With the naming of the judges of election Mayor Wootten declared the motion passed and the resolution adopted. The resolution provides that the special election be held as nearly in conformity with the general election laws as possible.

Benton Randolph and deputies are well along with the assessment work for this year. Live stock will show a considerable increase over last year.



## PRICE MAN TO TALK BEFORE NATIONAL BODY

### ROAD MATTERS GOING NICELY

#### Survey From Price to Helper Cuts Down the Distance.

J. H. Tuttle, district engineer on state road work and in charge of five counties in Eastern and Southern Utah, says he believes work will start with the opening of spring on the government highway between Price and the town of Emery and on which more than a hundred thousand dollars more than a hundred and seventy thousand. This will be expended. There will be work for a hundred teams and men at least. This is one of the biggest appropriations made anywhere in the state and it will be late in the fall, if then, when it is completed. Labor will be employed.

Yesterday the engineers in charge of the survey between here and Helper completed their work. There is but one material change in the present line from the city limits at Price to the railroad town. This is at the Blue Cut, where the new survey shortens the road some twelve hundred feet. Instead of going around the point of the hill there, the road is to go over it on the south of the rail road tracks on a 3 per cent grade. The new road leaves the old at a point about opposite the diversion dam. There is to be a cut and fill of something like thirteen hundred feet.

With this Helper road complete as far as the survey goes the engineers leave here for Duchesne and will be employed between there and Vernal for most of the spring and summer months. There are four in the party.

#### CARBON HIGH HAS APPLIED FOR THE HOME ECONOMICS

State high schools which have qualified for state and federal aid for vocational and part time education are announced by Francis W. Kirchane, state director of vocational education. The names of the schools which have thus far been accepted as being in accordance with and entitled to the benefits of the federal plan are Lehi high school, Lehi; Parowan high, Cedar City; Morgan high school, Morgan; the Duchesne county high, Roosevelt; Wasatch high, Heber City; North Cache high, Richfield; South Cache, Hyrum; Pleasant Grove high, Pleasant Grove; Kanarr high, South Summit, and the Sandy high, Sandy. Names of other high schools qualified will be announced as soon as their applications are accepted.

Each of these high schools will be entitled to all the accommodations necessary to conduct the standard course in vocational education. The accommodations asked for in most instances include two class rooms, a laboratory with the proper equipment and a library, containing approximately two thousand and five hundred volumes and pamphlets.

Carbon county high has applied for the home economics, says County Superintendent Ryan, and expects to hear any day of favorable action on the petition. It is not practical at this time to ask for anything more.

by water from a government project which includes a high dam a short distance up the river. Should the be cleared, the bonds might some day prove an excellent "buy" at over five hundred dollars.

#### NEW BUILDING PLANS DUE FROM ZION ARCHITECTS

There was to have been a meeting of the school board yesterday afternoon, but it has been deferred to a special call because the plans for the Castle Gate building which were to have been submitted at this time are not ready. The architects, Cannon & Fetzer at Salt Lake City, have them about ready, however, and were expected to be here with them at this time. Miles E. Miller is working on the ones for Hiawatha, and it is believed the two will be ready for the consideration of board members with in the coming week. It is believed the two can be brought within seventy-five thousand dollars. A bond issue for about half this amount will be asked for. The board would like to get started on both buildings by early spring and has all along been working to this end.

#### ZENATE BILL OFFERED TO BUY GREEN RIVER BONDS

Senator James W. Clyde, who is quite familiar with conditions in Eastern Utah, last Wednesday introduced a bill in the state senate which would permit the state land board to dispose of the Green River Irrigation district bonds it holds at five cents on the dollar. Through the state board the district, several years ago, for \$1,000,000 by purchasing the bonds, there are persons who say that if it realizes twenty-five hundred dollars on them it will be doing well.

The district had a dam across the Green river to develop power with

which to pump water to a canal that would serve in irrigating a considerable area. But the Green proved to be an unrelenting river in flood time. The dam went out and fuses were broken to complete the repairs. The settlers for the most part left. The orchards perished and payments on the land were defaulted.

The county commissioners meet in regular session this next Tuesday, the second meeting of the year.

Sliced apples, baked slowly in a casserole with butter and brown sugar are served with cream.

been going into the cost of the twenty-seven miles of line to a point near Colton. Their largest figures are about a hundred and eighty thousand dollars for a pipeline of ten to ten. Mayor Wootten is today in Salt Lake City and likely will have more data upon his return. Recently a large number of representative citizens and taxpayers of the city met with the council. Endorsement of present plans unanimous.

#### CITY FATHERS ACCEPT SIREN

Further Tests, However, of the Critter Are to Be Made.

At Tuesday evening's meeting of the city council it was decided to pay for the fire siren bought some time ago and which has practically been on trial since being placed at City Hall. Its cost is two hundred and nine dollars. There has been some complaint that it cannot be heard, but this is thought to be because of its not being placed high enough above the building. It is to be still further in the air by being raised unless at a further trial to be made it proves satisfactory. Some of these nights it is "going off" at the direction of the city fathers just for a further test. If it doesn't work to the satisfaction of the council, or rather awaken them from their slumber, the tower will be extended in the hope of more noise.

Members of the light committee reported that patrons complain in a number of instances of their meters reading outrageously high. It was explained that users of light and power are entitled to have their meters examined free of charge once a year. If they are found correct any further tests of meters during the twelve months is at the customer's expense. Meters are to be read under this ruling in cases where complaint is registered with the city electrician. The light committee is also going to prepare a new schedule for examination at the next council session. It will be considerably lower than the present one.

There was some question about allowing a bill of the city physician for a hundred and sixty-five dollars. However, it went through as rendered and a warrant ordered drawn. It was the sense of the councilmen that his charges be hereafter restricted. It was brought out during this discussion that it costs the city an average of ten dollars for the fumigation of the average residence. Six new cases of influenza were reported to the mayor by the city health and quarantine officer.

Mayor Wootten and Councilman Goetzmann called attention to the fact that Mrs. Alice Whitmore and others of the Red Cross were planning some reception of a permanent character to soldiers as they arrive home. It was thought the ladies might want some financial aid, which the council is willing to grant if they will let it be known.

William Downard appeared before the council in behalf of several residents of the eastern portion of the city whose water mains are frozen. The complaint will be looked into and the situation remedied if possible.

Booking the city for the proposed new water system will be further considered at the adjourned meeting a week from next Tuesday.

Since the above was put in type the test of the siren was made about midnight last (Thursday) night. Everybody heard it.

#### FORMER GREEN RIVER MAN PASSES ON PACIFIC COAST

UKIAH, Calif., Feb. 6.—John Farren, formerly a widely known merchant and cattleman of Utah, left an estate worth four thousand dollars, according to a petition for probate of the will filed by the widow, Mrs. Elizabeth Sophia Farren. The estate consists of two hundred and fifty acres of land in Anderson Valley, Calif. Farren left Green River about fifteen years ago for Bonville, Calif., where he became a merchant and farmer. He died there recently of cancer of the stomach.

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